

## 03040206-07

(*Waccamaw River*)

### General Description

The South Carolina portion of 03040206-07 (formerly 03040206-090, 100, 110) is located in Horry County and consists primarily of the *Waccamaw River* and its tributaries from where it crosses the South Carolina/North Carolina state line to Simpson Creek. The watershed occupies 157,690 acres of the Lower Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 36.1% forested wetland, 30.0% agricultural land, 22.0% forested land, 7.4% urban land, 3.1% scrub/shrub land, 1.0% nonforested wetland, 0.3% water, and 0.1% barren land.

This portion of the Waccamaw River accepts drainage within South Carolina from Indigo Branch, Bellamy Branch, Cold Water Branch, Meetinghouse Branch (Mill Swamp), and Buck Creek (Round Swamp, Sheepbridge Branch, Camp Swamp, Little Cedar Branch, Cedar Branch, Big Cedar Branch, Deep Branch). Simpson Creek accepts drainage from Mill Branch, Bear Branch, West Bear Branch (Neal Branch), another Mill Branch, Cowpen Swamp (Little Cowpen Swamp), Flat Bay, Floyd Bay, Big Swamp, and Todo Swamp (Thoroughfare Bay, Frank Branch) before draining into the river. There are a total of 335.6 stream miles and 84.0 acres of lake waters in this watershed. The Waccamaw River is classified FW\* (dissolved oxygen not less than 4.0 mg/l and pH between 5.0 and 8.5) and the remaining streams in the watershed are classified FW.

### Surface Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
MD-124	P/INT	FW*	WACCAMAW RIVER AT SC 9 7.0 MI W OF CHERRY GROVE
PD-362	W/INT	FW	BUCK CREEK AT SC 905
PD-363	W/INT	FW	SIMPSON CREEK AT SC 905

**Waccamaw River (MD-124)** – This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low dissolved oxygen concentration conditions. Although dissolved oxygen excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Aquatic life uses are not supported due to occurrences of copper in excess of the aquatic life acute criterion. There is also a significant increasing trend in turbidity. There is a significant increasing trend in pH. A significant decreasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Recreational uses are fully supported.

**Buck Creek (PD-362)** – Aquatic life uses are fully supported. There is a significant increasing trend in pH. A significant decreasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Recreational uses are fully supported; however, there is a significant increasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria.

**Simpson Creek (PD-363)** – Aquatic life uses are not supported due to occurrences of zinc in excess of the aquatic life acute criterion. A significant decreasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Recreational uses are fully supported.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes the Waccamaw River within this watershed (see advisory p.106).*

## Groundwater Quality

<u>Well #</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Aquifer</u>	<u>Location</u>
AMB-016	GB	BLACK CREEK	LONGS #2

## NPDES Program

### Active NPDES Facilities

<i>RECEIVING STREAM FACILITY NAME PERMITTED FLOW @ PIPE (MGD)</i>	<i>NPDES# TYPE COMMENT</i>
WACCAMAW RIVER GSW&SA/LONGS WWTP PIPE #: 001 FLOW: 0.95	SC0040878 MINOR DOMESTIC
MILL BRANCH LISTON HARDEE & SON/HARDEE PIT PIPE #: 001 FLOW: M/R	SCG730631 MINOR INDUSTRIAL
MEETINGHOUSE BRANCH SOUTHERN ASPHALT/HOLMS FARM PIPE #: 001 FLOW: M/R	SCG730363 MINOR INDUSTRIAL
SHEEPBRIDGE BRANCH WAKE STONE CORP./N. MYRTLE BEACH PIPE #: 001 FLOW: M/R	SCG730316 MINOR INDUSTRIAL
WACCAMAW RIVER TRIBUTARY SOUTHERN ASPHALT/HWY 90 PIT PIPE #: 001 FLOW: M/R	SCG730146 MINOR INDUSTRIAL

## Nonpoint Source Management Program

### Land Disposal Activities

#### Landfill Facilities

<i>LANDFILL NAME FACILITY TYPE</i>	<i>PERMIT # STATUS</i>
WHITE & SON, INC. COMPOSTING	262606-3001 ACTIVE
SUNWAY ENVIRONMENTAL INC. COMPOSTING	262666-3001 ACTIVE

### Mining Activities

<i>MINING COMPANY MINE NAME</i>	<i>PERMIT # MINERAL</i>
LISTON T. HARDEE & SON, INC. HARDEE	1055-51 SAND/CLAY
WHITE & SON, INC. HEWETT ROAD MINE	1132-51 SAND/CLAY
GRAND STRAND AGGREGATES, LLC GORETOWN MINE	1161-51 LIMESTONE

TONY COX TONY COX HOME POND MINE	1700-51 SAND/CLAY
HOLMES HOLMES MINE	1640-51 SAND
WAKE STONE CORP. NORTH MYRTLE BEACH QUARRY	1289-51 LIMESTONE
AO HARDEE & SONS HEWETT ROAD MINE	1624-51 SAND/CLAY
HARDEE MINING HARDEE MINE	1637-51 SAND
SOUTHERN ASPHALT INC. HWY 90 PIT MINE	1187-51 SAND; SAND/CLAY
WHITE & SONS, INC. CHESTNUT PIT	1427-51 SAND
WORLEY TRUCKING CO., INC. WORLEY MINE #3	1778-51 SAND
NEXT STEP INC. KITTLE RESIDENCE MINE	1780-51 SAND
TURFMEN INC. RECREATIONAL POND	1746-51 SAND

## **Water Quantity**

Portions of this watershed fall within the Waccamaw Capacity Use Area and large groundwater uses must be reported (see Capacity Use Program p.27).

## **Growth Potential**

There is a moderate to high potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the City of North Myrtle Beach. The highest growth, in the form of residential and commercial development, will occur in the area east of the Waccamaw River, which has water infrastructure. The S.C. Hwy 90 corridor, which runs east of the river, also has water available. Moderate growth is seen for the S.C. Hwy 9 corridor, which has both water and sewerage, and an increase in commercial development in particular is predicted for this corridor. Outside of the municipal areas, the watershed is primarily agricultural, timberland, and residential. Some growth is predicted around the unincorporated community of Longs, which has water and sewer infrastructure, due to the sprawling development around North Myrtle Beach and Myrtle Beach.